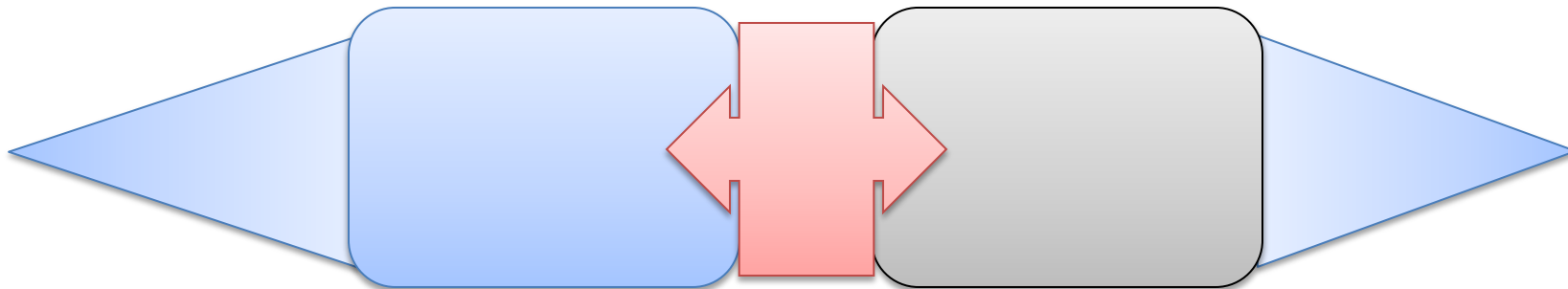
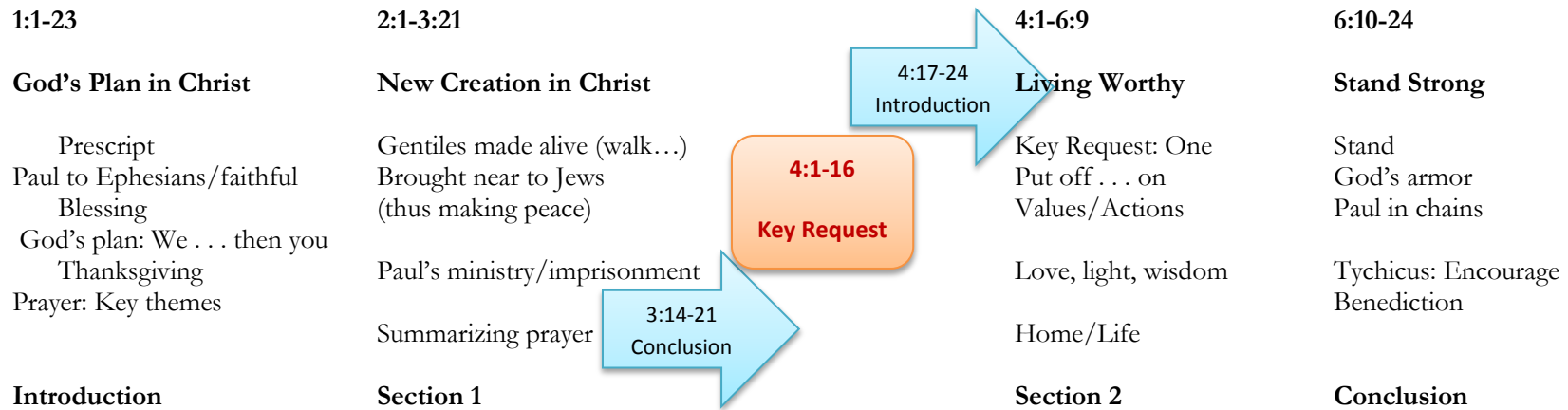


The Shape of Ephesians

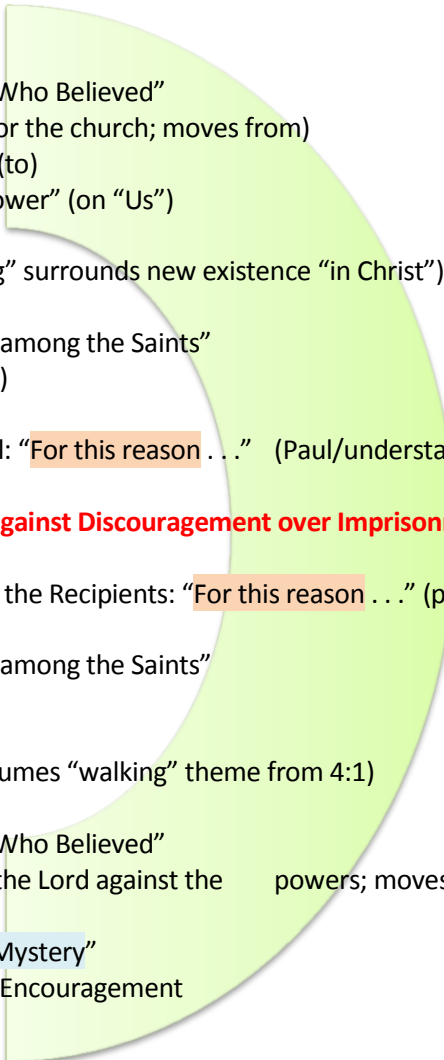
Map



Outline

Introduction:	1:1-23	
Prescript	1:1-2	Paul (apostle by the will of God) to Ephesians/faithful
Blessing	1:3-14	God's Plan: Spiritual blessing to "Us" (the first to hope) and to "You"
Thanksgiving	1:15-23	Prayer for understanding: calling, inheritance, power . . .
Middle/Body	2:1-3:21	The new humanity in Christ
Calling	2:1-10	Raised and seated with Christ: God's new creation (for good works)
Inheritance	2:11-22	One new, purposeful humanity (out of Jews and Gentiles)
Power	3:1-13	Paul's role according to (the administration of) God's power
Transition	3:14-21	Prayer for the power to understand the dimension of God's love
Middle/Body	4:1-6:9	Living Worthy
Petition	4:1-16	Request to maintain the unity and working of the Spirit To live worthy of God's new creation/humanity in Christ
Living Worthy	4:17-5:21	Living up to or worthy of the "new man" or "person" of God.
Old/New	4:17-24	New person of God
Values	4:25-32	Fundamental values/actions
Love	5:1-5	Live in Love (as imitators of God)
Light	5:6-14	Live in (as children of) light
Wisdom	5:15-21	Live (carefully) in wisdom (live smart)
Family	5:22-6:9	
Marriage	5:22-33	Family: Marriage
Children	6:1-4	Family: Parents/Children
Servants	6:5-9	Family: Servants
Conclusion:	6:10-24	Stand strong with the Armor of God
Stand/Armor	6:10-20	Stand/Armor/Prayer (for Paul)
Tychicus	6:21-22	Tychicus: To encourage about Paul
Blessing:	6:23-24	Peace . . . and grace upon those who love Jesus incorruptibly

Possible Circular Structure

- 
- A 1:1-2: Opening Greeting
- B 1:3-23: “Greatness of His **Power** upon Us Who Believed”
(lordship of Christ over all power for the church; moves from)
1:3-14: Blessing: “We”/”Mystery” (to)
1:[13]15-23: **Prayer**: “You” (to) “Power” (on “Us”)
- C 2:1-10: “Hope of His Calling” (“walking” surrounds new existence “in Christ”)
- D 2:11-22: “Riches of His Inheritance among the Saints”
(= unity/[blessings] theme)
- E 3:1-13: **Power** Applied to Paul: “For this reason . . .” (Paul/understanding/mystery/power/”us”)
- x 3:13: **Prayer/Request against Discouragement over Imprisonment of Paul**
- E’ 3:14-21: **Power Prayed** for, for the Recipients: “For this reason . . .” (power/understanding/fullness/”you”)
- D’ 4:1-16: “Riches of His Inheritance among the Saints”
(= unity/[gifts] theme)
- C’ 4:17-6:9: “Hope of His Calling” (4:17 resumes “walking” theme from 4:1)
- B’ 6:10-22: “Greatness of His **Power** upon Us Who Believed”
(armor of God: standing strong in the Lord against the powers; moves from)
6:10-19: “Power” on “You” (to)
6:19-20: **Prayer** for Paul and the “Mystery”
6:21-22: Disclosure about Paul for Encouragement
- A’ 6:23-24: Closing Blessing